(b) if so, the location thereof, district-wise; the funds proposed to be allocated for each KVK in these districts and also for construction of building at KVK, Bilaspur; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) There are 16 districts in Chhattisgarh at present, which include seven old and nine newly created districts. The Indian council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has sanctioned KVKs in three newly created districts, *viz.* Dhamatari, Jangir-Champa and Mahasamund during the current year. As per the sanctioned provision the remaining KVKs are expected to be established by the end of X Plan depending on the availability of land and other logistics.

(b) and (c) The locations of the KVKs in three newly created districts are: *Jarve (Jangir-Champa), Matevesawar (Mahasamund) and* Sahadabari (Dhamatari). An amount of Rs 17.20 lakhs has been allocated during the current financial year for each of these KVKs. An amount of Rs. 11.00 lakhs has been allocated for construction of building at KVK, Bilaspur.

Setting up of agriculture colleges

1797. SHRIMATILAL SARKAR. Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agriculture colleges which are going to be set up in different States during the year 2004-05;

(b) whether Government have any plan to set up an agriculture college in Tripura in order to bring to the farmer the advanced knowledge of farming in hilly as well as plain agricultural land;

(c) if so, the programme in detail; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Agriculture being a state subject, establishment of Agricultural Colleges in different states is within the purview of respective State Governments. However, a Central Agricultural University has already been established at Imphal, Manipur to address

the education & research needs in agriculture and allied subjects in the North Eastern Region of the country. In Tripura, at Lembucherra, Agartala, a College of fisheries is already in existence under Central Agricultural University.

(c) and (d) do not arise.

Drought Assistance to Karnataka

1798. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the names of the places which have been affected by current drought in Karnataka and what financial assistance has been given to the State for redressal of the grievances of the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): The Government of Karnataka have informed that no places are affected by drought at present.

Corpus and Operations of Consumer Welfare Fund

1799. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount currently available with the Consumer Welfare Fund (CWF);

(b) what percentage of the available fund has been utilized during the last five years;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the ceiling on grant allocations to consumer organizations; and

(d) whether Government intend to simplify the operational procedures of the Consumer Welfare Fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) As on 31.7.2004, an amount of Rs. 75,89,09000/- is available in the Consumer Welfare Fund.

(b) Details are given in the Statement. *(See below)*

(c) No Sir.